

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00399 311649Z

60

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 OPR-02 DRC-01 /142 W

----- 104604

R 311020Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2671

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUMBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

USCINCEUR VAIHIGEN GER

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0399

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MILI AO

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN EASTERN ANGOLA

1. DURING BRIEF VISIT BY CONGEN OFFICER TO LUSO, HEADQUARTERS FOR THE EASTERN MILITARY ZONE (ZML), FOLLOWING POINTS WERE MADE BY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER AT ZML HQ.

A. FNLA - STILL HAVING NO SUCCESS INFILTRATING TROOPS INTO ANGOLA'S EASTERN REGION. SINCE COUP SEVERAL BANDS HAVE ATTEMPTED ENTER NEAR TEIXEIRA DE SOUSA, BUT WERE DETECTED AND FORCED TO WITHDRAW BY PORTUGUESE FORCES. FNLA GREATLY STEPPING UP RECRUITMENT OF TROOPS AMONG REFUGEES IN ZAIRE (BOTH IN NORTH AND SHABA). REPORTEDLY THIS MEETING STIFF RESISTANCE FROM REFUGEES, WHO BLEW UP ONE FNLA TRUCK ON A RECRUITMENT MISSION.

B. MPLA - THEIR MILITARY SITUATION AT LOWEST EBB SINCE THEY BEGAN WARFARE IN 1967. PORTUGUESE CLAIM NO MPLA FORCES NOW INSIDE ANGOLA. CHIPENDA FIRMLY IN CHARGE OF ZAMBIAN PART OF MOVE-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUANDA 00399 311649Z

MENT BUT MAY BE HAVING TROUBLE OBTAINING SUPPLIES. SINCE COUP HE

SEEMS TO HAVE MOVED REFUGEE CAMPS FURTHER INTO ZAMBIA, AWAY FROM FRONTIER.

C. UNITA - MILITARY FORTUNES AT ALL TIME HIGH. RECENT SUCCESSFUL ACTION (E.G. AMBUSH OF PORTUGUESE CONVOY AND ATTACKS ON VILLAGES) AUSING GREAT CONCERN AT HQ. UNTIL JANUARY 1 THERE WAS UNOFFICIAL "LIVE AND LET LIVE" ATTITUDE BETWEEN ARMY AND UNITA, BUT THIS OVER NOW AND ATTEMPT IS BEING MADE TO REDUCE AND CONTROL UNITA'S FAR-RANGING ACTIONS. (ODDLY, BRIEFER CLMIMED UNITA ARMED FORCES NUMBER ONLY 200 MEN.)

D. KATANGA GENDARMES - REPORTEDLY 4000, COUNTING WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN TWO CAMPS (NEAR CAZOMBO AND HENRIQUE DE CARVALHO). THEY PERFORM NO MILITARY FUNCTION FOR PORTUGUESE EXCEPT PROTECT THEIR OWN CAMP (AND, FROM WHAT WE HEAR, TERRORIZE THEI ANGOLAN NEIGHBORS).

E. POLITICS - PORTUGUESE HAVE WORD OF A POSSIBLE UNITA-CHIPENDA RAPPROACHMENT, AND ALSO OF A FNLA-CHIPENDA DIALOGUE AND DO NOT RULE OUT A DEAL BETWEEN ROBERTO, SAVIMBI AND CHIPENDA TO SET UP UNITED FRONT TO NEGOTIATE WITH LISBON, LEAVING THE NOW HARD-LINE NETO AS ODD-MAN OUT.
COMMENT: THIS IS LOOKING MORE LIKELY IN LIGHT OF MEETINGS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE THREE IN LUSAKA (SEE LUSAKA 1030).

F. PEACE - ARMY EXPECTS CEASE-FIRE "SOON." PLANS TO BRING SAVIMBI'S PARENTS TO LUSO IN ATTEMPT TO MAKE CONTACT AND START CONVERSATION WITH HIM. IN INTERIM MILITARY ACTIVITIES CONTINUING AS BEFORE - I.E., FEW. WITH EXCEPTION UNITA, WHO MOVE IN HEAVILY FORESTED REGION, THERE SIMPLY NO OTHER OBJECTIVES LEFT FOR ARMY TO TAKE IN ZML.

2. COMMENT: BASED ON THIS AND SEVERAL OTHER ENCOUNTERS, INCLUDING WITH ACQUAINTANCES FROM EARLIER VISITS, WE RATE ARMY MORALE AS STILL HIGH. WHILE ALL RANKS ARE NOW THINKING OF GOING HOME, OFFICERS DETERMINED NOT TO ABANDON ANGOLA PRECIPITOUSLY, AND MANY WILLING STAY AND FIGHT TO SEE MISSION THROUGH TO CONCLUSION. ARMY WELCOMES DIALOGUE WITH GUERRILLA GROUPS AND FEELS IT WILL BE GOING INTO TALKS WITH ITS PRIDE INTACT AS IT HOLDS THE UPPER HAND MILITARILY IN ALL OF ANGOLA.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUANDA 00399 311649Z

BRIGGS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFILTRATION, REFUGEES, EXPLOSIVES, TRUCKS, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LUANDA00399
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740138-0585
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974054/aaaaacpt.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <25 MAR 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITUATION IN EASTERN ANGOLA
TAGS: PINT, MILI, AO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005